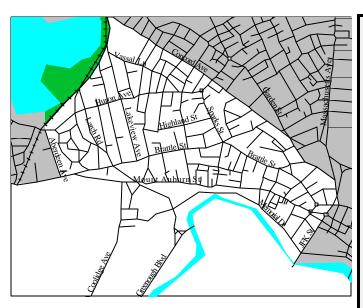
## NEIGHBORHOOD 10 WEST CAMBRIDGE





**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by the Charles River, JFK Street, Garden Street, Concord Avenue, Fresh Pond, Abderdeen Avenue, and the Watertown line

**POPULATION:** 8,266 residents

3.887 households

## **AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**

\$54.656

Neighborhood #10 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Cars 10R and 13R (1 officer cars). It also includes walking routes 10A, 10B, 10C, and 16X.

## 2001First Quarter Review

Despite minor declines over the past couple of years, West Cambridge's 1st Quarter totals took a dramatic plunge in 2001. West Cambridge was devoid of any street **robberies** throughout the 1st Quarter of 2001, despite having reported a major increase from 1999 at the end of last year. • Housebreaks spiraled down to 4, from a total of 8 in 2000. Half of the breaks were merely attempts that were thwarted by successful protection devices (alarms, security locks, etc.). Most housebreaks occurred between 12 & 1 am, in multi-unit dwellings owned by elderly persons, or tenants who were away for several weeks. Items targeted were fairly small in size, like watches and coins. • Due to more effective, thorough policing in this area, coupled with last year's 67% increase in drug arrests, West Cambridge reported very little drug activity. In the one incident, a man from Mattapan was apprehended and charged with possession of a hypodermic needle and a glassine bag, containing heroin. Automobiles appear to have been a favorite target among vandals, who proceeded to damage numerous cars by means of graffiti, broken windows, and other forms of malicious destruction. Vassal Lane was also a popular hotspot for property destruction, as well as 330 Mt Auburn St. and a school on Lowell Street.

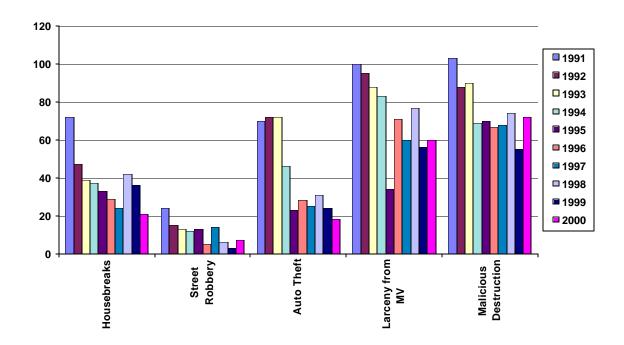
COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS FIRST QUARTER 2000 & 2001							
CRIME	1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2000	1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2001	% CHANGE				
Housebreaks	8	4	-50%				
Street Robbery	1	0	<u>Inc.</u>				
Auto Theft	4	4	None				
Larceny from MVs	11	12	+9%				
Malicious Destruction	19	20	+5%				

Drug Arrests 4 1 <u>Inc.</u>

## **NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS**

West Cambridge is, geographically, the largest neighborhood in the city. Its east end contains a good portion of Harvard Square, bustling with commercial traffic; its western border is marked by Fresh Pond and Kingsley Park. In between are the beautiful homes of Brattle Street, the expansive Cambridge Cemetery, Mount Auburn Hospital, and half a dozen elementary schools. Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the eastern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.

- Almost all of West Cambridge's target crimes are lower than average, its population is slightly higher than average.
- **Larceny from motor vehicles**, is concentrated in the area bordered by Sparks, Brattle, and Mount Auburn Street. The incidents occur primarily on weekends, late at night. The related crime of **malicious destruction** registers at average levels.
- **Housebreaks**, once a pressing problem, have been virtually eliminated. Summertime residential burglary patterns, once the scourge of West Cambridge, have not appeared for years. The 1997 total was the lowest in three decades.
- **Bicycle theft** patterns strike the Harvard Square area each spring and summer. The large number of bicycles parked in the area lead to high levels of theft. **Larcenies from Persons** become a problem every spring and summer around the Square and in its many commercial establishments.



ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR WEST CAMBRIDGE AREA TARGET CRIMES						
Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2000*	
Housebreaks	105	4	38	8	9	
Street Robbery	18	7	12	9	9	
Auto Theft	105	6	42	8	10	
Larceny from MVs	134	3	70	5	4	
Malicious Destruction	92	8	75	7	7	

<sup>\*</sup>Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest